

REMARKS

A telephone conference between the Examiner and Dennis M. Smid and Samuel H. Megerditchian (two of the applicants' attorneys) was held on February 25, 2004. The applicants and Merrs. Smid and Megerditchian wish to thank the Examiner for her time and consideration for such interview.

Claims 1, 3-8, 10 and 13-17 are in this application. Claims 1 and 8 are amended, claims 2 and 9 are cancelled and new claims 16 and 17 are added, without prejudice.

Claims 1-10, and 13-15 were provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting type as being unpatentable over claims 1-23 of copending Application No. 09/749,318 and claims 1-26 of copending Application No. 09/796,942. Independent claims 1 and 8 (from which the remaining claims depend) have been amended herein. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the obviousness-type double patenting rejections be withdrawn.

Claims 1-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. The claims have been amended herein as discussed during the February 25th interview and, accordingly are believed not to be indefinite. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the 112 rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 3, 5, 6-8, 10, and 13-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hurdell, U.S. Patent No. 623,548. The amendment to claims 1 and 8 with the recitation of cancelled claims 2 and 9, respectively, and as discussed with the Examiner during the telephone interview, render the rejection moot. Consequently, reconsideration and withdrawal of the Section 102 rejection based on the Hurdell patent are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by De Winter et al., U.S. Patent No. 3,623,924. Applicants respectfully disagree. The De Winter patent fails to teach and enable each and every element of the instant invention.

The De Winter patent relates to electrically insulating adhesive tape and a method of applying intermittent electrical insulation. The patent, however, does not appear to teach and enable, for example, folding of a sheet. Further, the patent fails to teach and enable a sheet that, when folded, creates a first fold line in a first direction parallel to a first edge, and when folded in a second direction parallel to said second edge creates a second fold line.

Indeed, it is respectfully submitted that it would be counterintuitive to fold electrically insulating adhesive tape in the manner claimed herein as the utility of the tape, and its adhesive nature, would necessarily be destroyed. Thus, reconsideration and withdrawal of the Section 102 rejection based on the De Winter patent are respectfully requested.

In the event that the Examiner disagrees with any of the foregoing comments concerning the disclosures in the cited prior art, it is requested that the Examiner indicate where in the reference or references is there basis for a contrary view.

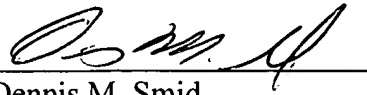
In view of the foregoing, entry of this amendment, favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections and the allowance of claims 1, 3-8, 10 and 13-17 in this application are respectfully requested.

Please charge any fees incurred by reason of this response and not paid herewith to

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Respectfully submitted,
FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP

By:



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